DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 188 540 HE 012 831

AUTHOR Kaufman, Norman
TITLE Estimates of Doctorates to Be Conferred by Western Universities in English, Philosophy and History, 1980-1982.
INSTITUTION Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, Boulder, Colo.
SPONS AGENCY Carnegie Corp. of New York, N.Y.; Colorado Univ., Boulder. Graduate School.; Washington Univ., Seattle.
REPORT NO WICHE-80-2
PUB DATE Jun 80
NOTE 16p.

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Degrees (Academic); Departments; *Doctoral Degrees; Educational Demand; Employment Projections; *English; *Enrollment Projections; Expectation; Higher Education; *History; *Humanities; Majors (Students); *Philosophy; Predictive Measurement; School Demography

ABSTRACT

This small study provides information on the numbers of doctorates in philosophy, history and English literature that universities in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming expect to award between 1980 and 1982. A brief survey form was mailed to the heads of humanities departments at 31 Western universities that offer doctoral degrees in English, history and philosophy. The form asked respondents to estimate number of doctorates to be conferred until 1982, whether doctoral awards would increase or decrease in 1983-84, and how nonacademic employment would affect doctoral candidates. Results showed that English departments report aggregate estimates of increased numbers of doctorates in the next three years, while history departments show an increase from June 1980 to June 1981, then a sharp decline to June 1982. The estimated number of doctorates in philosophy is greater than the average of degrees conferred over the past five years. It was estimated that most programs would stabilize their doctoral population and try to control initial large numbers of doctoral awards to prospective candidates. History departments were the most active in preparing graduates for nonacademic careers; philosophy departments least active. Appendices include a list of departments surveyed, copies of cover letters and survey forms used, and a directory of advisory council members associated with the project. (DC)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

Hawaii Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Oregon Utah Washingt
on Wyoming Alaska Arizona California Colorado Hawaii Idaho Mon

ED188540

Project on Expanding Regional Cooperation in Graduate & Professional Education

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

WICHE

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

WICHE

Improving Education In The West

WICHE

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is a nonprofit regional organization. It helps the thirteen member states cooperatively provide high-quality, cost-effective programs to meet the education and manpower needs of the West. Member states are Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Project Intent

The Project on Expanding Regional Cooperation in Graduate and Professional Education is developing and testing new models for interstate planning and resource sharing. Through the project, WICHE provides data to support planning and program review, assists state agencies and institutions in gathering data, and compiles an inventory of doctoral programs. The project is working closely with the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to develop and test a model for effectively sharing unique program resources and facilities. The results of this demonstration project will be disseminated widely as a model that may be useful to the other western states and to states in other regions. The graduate education project is supported by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and by WICHE state dues through its Student Exchange Program.

Staff

For further information, please contact:

WICHE — Phillip Sirotkin, Executive Director
William R. McConnell, Student Exchange Program Director

Project — Richard W. Jonsen, Project Director
Norman Kaufman, Senior Staff Associate
Barbara Krauth, Staff Associate
Dennis W. Viehland, Research Assistant
Cheryl Pedersen, Administrative Secretary
Dorothy Read, Secretary

ESTIMATES OF DOCTORATES TO BE CONFERRED BY WESTERN UNIVERSITIES IN ENGLISH, PHILOSOPHY AND HISTORY, 1980-1982

by

Norman Kaufman

June 1980
Report 80-2

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

P.O. Drawer P Boulder, Colorado 80302

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study was co-sponsored by WICHE's Graduate Education Project, the Graduate School of the University of Colorado, and the Humanities Council of the University of Washington. We wish to thank Rose-Marie Oster, Acting Dean of the Graduate School of the University of Colorado, and Carol Thomas, Chair of the Humanities Council of the University of Washington, for their support.

This report was prepared by Norman Kaufman, Director of Planning and Research for the Graduate Education Project.

Funds for this project were provided (in part) by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The statements made and views expressed are solely the responsibility of the author.

ESTIMATES OF DOCTORATES TO BE CONFERRED BY WESTERN UNIVERSITIES IN ENGLISH, PHILOSOPHY AND HISTORY, 1980-1982

Purpose of the Survey

National forecasts of the numbers of doctorates to be granted over the next decade predict a massive oversupply of graduates relative to demand. Predictions of the supply-demand imbalance are particularly disturbing for humanities disciplines, which have traditionally placed most graduates in academic positions. Because the job market for doctorate recipients is national, most studies have focused attention on that level. Program planning decisions are institutional in nature, however, making those national studies and data a composite of many individual decisions.

The small study reported here provides information on the numbers of doctorates in philosophy, history, and English that Western universities expect to award in the next three years. Its purpose is to indicate the short-run trends in the region in order to give educators and program planners data that can be compared to national studies and reports.

The study was co-sponsored by WICHE's Project on Expanding Regional Cooperation in Graduate and Professional Education, the Graduate School of the University of Colorado, and the Humanities Council of the University of Washington.

Methodology

WICHE mailed a brief survey form and cover letter (see appendix) to the heads of departments at Western* universities that offer doctoral

*Use of the term West or Western refers to the thirteen states in the WICHE Compact: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

degrees in English, history, and philosophy. WICHE's Inventory of Doctoral Programs in the Western United States was used to identify the programs to be surveyed. The survey form, a return postcard with the questions on the reverse side, and the cover letter were mailed on April 14, 1980, with a request to respond by May 1, 1980. WICHE sent a follow-up request to nonrespondents on May 1, 1980. As of May 19, WICHE had received the following numbers of responses:

Philosophy	--	15 of 17 requested (88 percent)
History	--	25 of 28 requested (89 percent)
English	--	18 of 23 requested (78 percent)

These rates of response are good for survey research and permit reasonable estimates of current trends. The appendix contains a copy of the cover letter, questionnaire, and a list of the departments that responded.

Limitations of the Study

As with any survey research, the survey returns may not represent the universe of respondents adequately. Although we do not believe this to be the case here, the reader should review the list of nonrespondents to make an informed judgment. It is also important to recognize that the data reported here are estimates made by informed individuals--department heads and program directors--but that they still may be affected by any number of factors, including the time required to complete the degree and changes in department or university policy.

Results

The table below displays the estimated numbers of doctorates in each of these fields to be awarded in the period July 1979 through June 1980,

July 1980 through June 1981, and July 1981 through June 1982, and the weighted average number awarded annually over the five-year period 1974-1979. The latter figures were taken from WICHE's Inventory of Doctoral Programs in the Western United States, and were adjusted to exclude nonrespondents to the survey. English departments report aggregate estimates of increased numbers of doctorates in the next three years, while history shows an increase from June 1980 to June 1981, then a sharp decline to June 1982. Doctorates in philosophy are estimated to increase sharply, then level off. The estimated number of doctorates in philosophy is greater than the weighted average of degrees conferred over the past five years, while the same results hold for English doctorates in 1981 and 1982. The estimated number of doctorates in history is lower than the last five years' average.

Estimated Number of Doctorates, 1980-1982

Discipline	July 1979-June 1980	July 1980-June 1981	July 1981-June 1982	Weighted Average* 1974-1979 (Excl. Nonrespondents)
Philosophy	33	47	45	29
History	123	132	116	147
English	93	106	118	104

*The weightings used give increasing emphasis to recent years by assigning a value of 5 to 1979, 4 to 1978 . . . 1 to 1974.

The survey questionnaire asked respondents whether they expected the number of doctorates awarded by their programs to increase, decrease, or remain the same in 1983 and 1984 compared to their 1982 estimates. The results are displayed on the following page:

	Increase	Decrease	Remain the Same
Philosophy	0	3	12
History	0	5	19
English	1	6	11

The figures clearly indicate an anticipated leveling-off of most programs and the downward adjustments of others.

The final two survey questions asked if the respondents expected an increase in the numbers of their Ph.D.s going into nonacademic employment and whether their departments made special efforts to prepare students for nonacademic employment. From the responses tabulated below, the reader can see that a majority of the respondents in all three fields expect an increase in the numbers of their Ph.D.s going into nonacademic employment. A much smaller number in each field, however, report that their departments make special efforts to prepare Ph.D.s for nonacademic employment.

	Expect an Increase in Nonacademic Employment of Ph.D.s		Prepare Ph.D.s for Nonacademic Employment
	Yes	No	
Philosophy	10	5	2
History	21	4	14
English	12	6	5

History departments seem to be most active in preparing graduates for nonacademic careers; philosophy departments least active. WICHE will contact departments that indicated they make these special efforts and will provide a report on the approaches they use.

Conclusions

These data are exploratory in the sense that they present estimates of short-term trends in doctorate degree production. They suggest that the numbers of doctorates awarded by Western universities in English and philosophy will increase initially, then stablize and that the numbers of doctorates awarded in history will decrease slightly and then stablize. These data suggest that unless significantly fewer students enroll in these programs in the coming years, there will not be an appreciable downturn in the numbers of doctorates awarded by Western universities in these fields.

APPENDIX

DEPARTMENTS SURVEYED

English

Arizona State University
*University of Arizona
*Claremont Graduate School
Stanford University
**University of California, Berkeley
*University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of the Pacific
*University of Southern California
University of Colorado
University of Denver
University of Northern Colorado
Idaho State University
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Mexico, Main Campus
University of Oregon, Main Campus
University of Utah
University of Washington
Washington State University

Philosophy

University of Arizona
Claremont Graduate School
Stanford University
*University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
*University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Southern California
**California Institute of Asian Studies
University of Colorado
University of Hawaii--Manoa
University of New Mexico, Main Campus
University of Oregon, Main Campus
University of Utah
University of Washington

History

Arizona State University
University of Arizona
*Claremont Graduate School
Stanford University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
*University of California, San Francisco Medical Center
University of California, Santa Barbara
*University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Southern California
University of Colorado
University of Northern Colorado
University of Denver
University of Hawaii--Manoa
University of Idaho
University of Montana
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New Mexico, Main Campus
University of Oregon, Main Campus
Brigham Young University, Main Campus
University of Utah
University of Washington
Washington State University
University of Wyoming

*Departments that did not respond.
**Response was not included in the tabulations.

P. O. Drawer P, Boulder, Colorado 80302 • (303) 497-0221

WICHE
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
affirmative action/equal opportunity employer

MEMORANDUM April 14, 1980

TO: Department Heads in English, History and Philosophy

FROM: Norman Kaufman
Graduate Education Project

Rose Marie Oster, Acting Dean of the Graduate School,
University of Colorado

Carol Thomas, Chair of the Humanities Council,
University of Washington

SUBJECT: Attached Survey of Doctoral Degrees

National forecasts of the numbers of doctorates to be granted over the next decade predict a massive "oversupply" of graduates. Predictions of the supply-demand imbalance are particularly disturbing for humanities fields, which have traditionally placed most graduates in academic positions.

We believe, however, that short-term estimates will be somewhat more accurate and, in addition, that many departments are making special efforts to prepare their graduates for careers outside academe. As part of its project on expanding regional cooperation in graduate education, WICHE is attempting to provide accurate data to be used in program planning. Would you assist in this effort by answering the questions on the enclosed post card? The results will be analyzed and returned to all respondents.

Although we ask you to identify yourself and your institution in order to keep track of responses, no individuals, programs, or institutions will be identified in our report.

Thank you for your help.

NK:cp

Enclosure

Please respond by May 1, 1980.

13

WICHE Graduate Education Project Survey of Number of Doctorates Expected to be Awarded in 1979-80, 1980-81, and 1981-82

Field _____

University _____

Estimated number of doctorates to be conferred:

July 1979 - June 1980 _____
July 1980 - June 1981 _____
July 1981 - June 1982 _____

Compared to 1981-82, do you expect the annual number of doctorates awarded to increase, decrease or remain the same for 1983 and 1984? _____

Do you expect the numbers of your Ph.D.s going into nonacademic employment to increase?

Yes _____ No _____

Does your program make special efforts to prepare students for nonacademic employment?

Yes _____ No _____

Name of Respondent _____

Title _____

PROJECT ON EXPANDING REGIONAL COOPERATION
IN GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Advisory Council

Alaska

Kerry D. Romesburg
Executive Director
Alaska Commission on
Postsecondary Education
Pouch F--State Office Building
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-2854

Arizona

Lela R. Alston
State Senator
Arizona State Senate
Capitol Building, Senate Wing
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 271-4485

William B. Phillips (Alternate)
Academic Planning Coordinator
Arizona Board of Regents
Education Building
1535 West Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 255-4082

California

Harold Geiogue
Principal Program Analyst
Joint Legislative Budget Committee
925 L Street, Suite 650
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 445-8641

Patrick Callan
Director
California Postsecondary
Education Commission
1020 Twelfth Street
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 445-1000

Colorado

J. Russell Nelson
Chancellor
University of Colorado at Boulder
Boulder, Colorado 80309
(303) 492-8908

Jürgen Denk
Graduate Student Advisory Council
University Memorial Center, 183D
University of Colorado at Boulder
Boulder, Colorado 80309
(303) 492-6116

Hawaii

Howard P. McKaughan
Professor of Linguistics
Linquistics Department
University of Hawaii
1890 East-West Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
(808) 948-7831

Idaho

Lawrence H. Rice
Dean of the Graduate School
Idaho State University
Pocatello, Idaho 83209
(208) 236-2150

Montana

JoEllen Estenson
Manpower Mental Health Project
Department of Institutions
1539 Eleventh Avenue, Room 315
Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 449-3964

Nevada

Eugene Grotegut
Professor of Foreign Languages
and Literature
University of Nevada
Reno, Nevada 89507
(702) 784-6857

New Mexico

McAllister Hull
Provost
The University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131
(505) 277-2611

John Aragon
President
New Mexico Highlands University
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701
(505) 425-7511

Oregon

Loren L. Wyss
Member, Executive Committee
Oregon State Board of Higher Education
1430 American Bank Building
Portland, Oregon 97205
(503) 222-3600

Utah

Leon McCarrey
Deputy Commissioner and Director
of Academic Affairs and Planning
Utah State Board of Regents
807 East South Temple, Suite 204
Salt Lake City, Utah 84103
(801) 533-5617

Washington

Patrick Morgan
Department of Political Science
Washington State University
Pullman, Washington 99163
(509) 335-4025

Wyoming

Patrick Quealy
Trustee of the University of Wyoming
915 Pine Avenue
Kemmerer, Wyoming 83101
(307) 877-4421

PROJECT ON EXPANDING REGIONAL COOPERATION
IN GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Demonstration States Coordinating Committee

Alaska

Mildred Banfield
The Board of Regents
University of Alaska
Box 920
Auke Bay, Alaska 99821
(907) 789-7390

Arliss Sturgulewski
State Senator
2957 Sheldon Jackson Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99504
(907) 279-4939

Kerry Romesburg
Advisory Council

Idaho

Ralph Olmstead
State Representative
Route 2
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
(208) 733-3047

Mark Toledo
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
Boise, Idaho 83720
(208) 334-2100

Clifford M. Trump (Alternate)
Deputy Director for Academic Planning
State of Idaho Board of Education
Len B. Jordan Office Building, Room 307
Boise, Idaho 83720
(208) 334-2270

Lawrence Rice
Advisory Council

Montana

Larry Fasbender
State Senator
Route 1, Box 23
Fort Shaw, Montana 59443
(406) 264-5730

John A. Richardson
Commissioner of Higher Education
Board of Regents of Higher Education
33 South Last Chance Gulch
Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 449-3024

JoEllen Estenson
Advisory Council

Oregon

Roy Lieuallen
Chancellor
Oregon System of Higher Education
P.O. Box 3175
Eugene, Oregon 97403
(503) 686-4153

Anthony Meeker
State Senator
Box 326
Amity, Oregon 97101
(503) 835-8481

Loren Wyss
Advisory Council

Washington

William Chance
Deputy Coordinator
Council for Postsecondary Education
908 Fifth Avenue
Olympia, Washington 98504
(206) 753-3245

Dan Grimm
State Representative
904 Seventh Avenue, S.W.
Puyallup, Washington 98371
(206) 845-2408

Patrick Morgan
Advisory Council